[Translation]

Debt Relief to Farmers

3608. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether since the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government have been giving financial assistance in order to give debt relief to the farmers;

(b) if so, the percentage of subsidy in this regard, out of the total subsidy given by the Government during the financial year 1990-91;

(c) whether the Government have withdrawn this subsidy from the financial year 1995-96;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to reintroduce the subsidy in the light of declining agricultural production?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Members are referring to the debt relief provided to farmers during the year 1990-91. It may be stated that Government of India formulated the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme 1990 for providing debt relief to a selected category of borrowers of public sector banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) who complied with eligibility criteria prescribed under the scheme. The State Governments also formulated their own schemes for borrowers of cooperatives. The public sector banks and RRBs were to be reimbursed as per extent policy guidelines by the Central Government on account of such debt relief provided by the banks. The reimbursement to cooperative banks was to be shared between the State Government and Central Government on a 50 : 50 basis.

Under the Scheme, which was made effective from 15th May, 1990, debt relief was provided to cover the overdues of the eligible borrowers who had taken loans from cooperative banks, RRBs and public sector banks as on 2nd October, 1989 and the relief amount was limited upto Rs. 10,000/- per borrower. The ARDR Scheme has come to a close on 31st March, 1991 and question of providing any further relief under the above scheme does not arise.

(c) to (e) In view of reply to (a) & (b) above, do not arise.

[English]

Outstanding Loans of IDBI

3609. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Debt Recovery Act, 1993 has been enacted for the recovery of outstanding loans of the Industrial Development Bank of India;

(b) if so, the outstanding loan recovered under the said Act; and

(c) the details of the further efforts made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 193 which came into force w.e.f. 24.6.1993 provides for the establishment of Tribunals for expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions, including Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).

(b) and (c) IDBI has reported that as on 31.3.1996, 10 recovery proceedings involving an amount of Rs. 124.11 crores have been filed by IDBI before the Tribunals. Further nine other proceedings involving an amount of Rs. 41.59 crores filed by IDBI in civil courts prior to establisment of these Tribunals have been tansferred by the concerned courts to these Tribunals in terms of the relevant provisions of the Act. It has been further reported by the IDBI that all these proceedings are under trial in the Tribunals and no amount has been recovered so far.

Assistance to India by World Bank and ADB

3610. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI K.S. RAYADU :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the multilateral finding agencies including World Bank and Asian Development Bank have threatend not to extend fresh assistance to India;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the problem of stoppage of aid?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.